

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 OMB-01 DHA-02 TRSE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

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R 100815Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9880

INFO AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 5323

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR ELAB LY TU

SUBJ: TURKISH WORKERS IN LIBYA

REF: TRIPOLI 0774

1. WE HAVE BEEN FOLLOWING CLOSELY THE POSSIBILITY OF SENDING TURKISH WORKERS TO LIBYA, AND FIND MUCH OF IT IS PURE PROPAGANDA. OUR SOURCES HERE INDICATE THERE MAY BE UP TO 5,000 TURKS WORKING IN LIBYA NOW, BUT THAT THE PROSPECTS FOR LARGER NUMBERS OF WORKERS BEING SENT TO LIBYA IS QUITE SLIM.

2. AN OFFICIAL TURKISH DELEGATION WAS IN LIBYA RECENTLY TO CONCLUDE A SOCIAL SECURITY TREATY, SIMILAR TO THE ONE WHICH TURKEY HAS SIGNED WITH A NUMBER OF EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, BUT RETURNED EMPTY-HANDED. CHIEF OF TURKISH DELEGATION TOLD EMB THAT TURKS AND LIBYANS "WERE NOT SPEAKING SAME LANGUAGE." THEREFORE, HE CUT VISIT SHORT, TOLD THE LIBYANS THAT THEY COULD COME TO ANKARA TO CONCLUDE THE TREATY, AND DELEGATION RETURNED HOME. PART OF THE DIFFICULTY APPEARS
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TO BE DEMANDS FOR SOCIAL RIGHTS FOR TURKISH WORKERS, WHICH THE

LIBYANS DO NOT ACCORD TO THEIR OWN WORKERS.

3. MFA IN DISCUSSIONS WITH PRIVATE TURKISH BUSINESSMEN
HAVE AGREED THAT IF PRIVATE SECTOR CAN OBTAIN CONTRACTS IN
LIBYA THE TURKISH WORKERS COULD POSSIBLY THROUGH THOSE TURKISH
FIRMS OBTAIN SOCIAL BENEFITS BEING DEMANDED
BY TURKISH GOVERNMENT. MFA CONCLUDED, HOWEVER,
THAT TURKISH PRIVATE SECTOR WAS FINDING IT DIFFICULT
TO COMPLETE WITH THE BLOC COUNTRIES WHICH, MFA SUGGESTED,
ARE SUBSIDIZING CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES OF THEIR FIRMS IN LIBYA.
BERGUS

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